GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7532
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION LOSSES
CHANDRA NATH SINGH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SEBs are incurring heavy losses every year due to transmission, distribution and generation of power;

(b) if so, the details of transmission and distribution losses till-date in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve the target on reduction of such losses?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : As per annual statement of accounts for the year 1997-98, 14 State Electricity Boards had a negative rate of Return (without subsidy). The major factors for the losses of SEBs inter alia are theft and pilferage, high T&D losses and unsustainable cross subsidy leading to large gap between cost of supply and revenue collection. In some states the efficiency of thermal plants is also low.

(b) : A statement showing T&D losses for the years 1993-97 are given in Annex.

(c) : In order to reduce the transmission and distribution losses, the Central Electricity Authority has issued comprehensive guidelines in July 1991, which, inter-alia provide for the following:

- Up gradation of operating voltages;
- Reduction of length of LT lines;
- Location of transformers near load centres;
- Adoption of low capacity transformers near consumers premises;
- Installation of shunt capacitors;
- Improvement in construction and operation techniques; and
- Systematic and methodological approach for planning and design of distribution system on a long term basis.
- Conducting energy audit and providing a methodology for segregating technical and commercial losses.

Necessary amendments have been made in the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, to make the theft of electricity a cognizable offence.

Under the Accelerated Power Development Programme

(APDP)it is proposed to provide funds to the State Governments for implementing specific projects for improving the sub-transmission and distribution system including installation of state-of-the-art electronic metering system. The modalities for financing projects to be implemented under the APDP Scheme as being finalised by the Planning Commission.

In the Conference of Power Ministers`which was held on 26.2.2000, the State/UT Governmentshave resolved to undertake energy auditing at all levels and to install meters for all consumers by December, 2001. With the adoption of these measures, it will be possible to substantially reduce losses arising due to power thefts.